



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (*NOAA*)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Thursday - August 10, 2000

- C** *In the West*, scattered thundershowers are providing limited relief from hot, dry conditions, although lightning strikes and gusty winds continue to promote the ignition and spread of wildfires.
- C** *On the Plains*, hot weather is promoting maturation and harvesting of spring-sown small grains across ***northern areas***, where today's high temperatures are forecast to approach 100 degrees F. Elsewhere in the region, warm weather and isolated showers are aiding summer crop development.
- C** *In the Corn Belt*, warm weather (today's high temperatures are forecast to range from 80 to 90 degrees F) continues to favor filling summer crops.
- C** *In the South*, showers are developing ***east of the Delta***, aiding pastures and immature summer crops. Topsoils remain extremely dry, however, in most areas from ***Texas to the Delta***. At 5:00 a.m. EDT, a weak tropical system—Tropical Depression #4—was centered about 75 miles east of ***Cape Canaveral, Florida***, moving west-northwestward at 6 m.p.h.

Outlook: During the next several days, widespread showers in the ***Southeast*** are forecast to provide some relief to drought-stressed pastures and summer crops. Meanwhile, hot weather will persist from the ***High Plains westward***, accompanied by only isolated thundershowers. Although some of the warmest air of the summer is forecast to overspread the ***Corn Belt***, temperatures are not expected to rise high enough to adversely affect filling corn and soybeans. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for August 15-19 calls for very warm weather to prevail from the ***northern and central Plains into the Northeast***, including the ***Corn Belt***. Slightly cooler air is forecast to overspread the ***West and South***, accompanied by above-normal rainfall in the latter region. Mostly dry weather will persist in the ***West***, but near-normal rainfall is forecast in the ***Corn Belt***.

Contact: Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)